

Suggested Opening Song: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (Verses 1 & 4), #198

It's one of the deepest mysteries of our faith: how three persons can be united in one divine being. On the solemnity of the Holy Trinity, we praise God the Father for sending the Son to save us from our sins and the Holy Spirit to remain with us always. The Holy Spirit draws us together as the body of Christ to receive the Son in the Eucharist and give glory to God the Father, in whose image we have been created. Let us praise and give thanks to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for the infinite love and mercy we have received.

As we gather let us begin our service by professing what we believe.

Profession of Faith p. 22

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow as we say) and by the Holy Spirit he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Introductory Rite:

Greeting:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God forever. **Blessed be God forever.**

Penitential Rite: p. 8

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to participate in this sacred celebration.

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen**

Opening Prayer:

God our Father, who by sending into the world the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification made known to the human race your wondrous mystery, grant us, we pray, that in professing the true faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word:

First Reading p. 230

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9

Early in the morning Moses went up Mount Sinai as the Lord had commanded him, taking along the two stone tablets.

Having come down in a cloud, the Lord stood with Moses there and proclaimed his name, “Lord.” Thus the Lord passed before him and cried out, “The Lord, the Lord, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity.” Moses at once bowed down to the ground in worship. Then he said, “If I find favor with you, O Lord, do come along in our company. This is indeed a stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins, and receive us as your own.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56

R/. Glory and praise forever!

R/. Glory and praise forever!

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever;
And blessed is your holy and glorious name, praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages. **R/.**

Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory,
praiseworthy and glorious above all forever. **R/.**

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever. **R/.**

Blessed are you who look into the depths from your throne upon the cherubim,
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever. **R/.**

Second Reading

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

John 3:16-18

Glory to you, O Lord

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection on the Word:

- “The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity,” God says to Moses in the first reading (Exodus 34:6). It is interesting that God uses a description that does not include the first words that may come to mind regarding the divine essence: words like all-powerful, all-knowing, infinite, or perfect. These words are true, of course, but God instead chooses to use words that are relational. God cannot be any of these things—merciful or gracious, kind or faithful—without someone else. But the fact that God is three persons means that God is relational from the start. Indeed, Jesus relies on these qualities when he faces his suffering and death. He relies on his faith that the Father is merciful to him, is gracious to him, is faithful to him. He also relies on these qualities when he promises the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Our God is a relational God, and God’s mercy, grace, love, and fidelity to us reflects these qualities among Father, Son, and Spirit.
- God’s generosity is strongly reflected in today’s readings. God’s self-description to Moses relates God’s generosity with mercy, grace, forgiveness, kindness, and faithfulness. Perhaps the ultimate example of God’s generosity comes in God’s Son—a gift to the world in the incarnation who gives himself over to death on the cross. As John points out, God is also generous with salvation. It is available to anyone who believes in the Son. Finally, God has given us the Holy Spirit, who remains with us always. Generosity is another relational quality, needing another person to be generous to.
- We cannot be all-powerful, all-knowing, infinite, or perfect. Nor can we bring salvation to the world. However, we can be merciful, gracious, slow to anger, kind, faithful, loving, and generous. The qualities that God puts first and foremost as godlike are qualities we can have—and use—as well. When we forgive and bear with one another, act kindly, give of ourselves, and love each other, we are acting as God self-identifies.

Question of the Week

What will I do this week to reflect the qualities of the divine essence?

Prayer of the Faithful:

Let us address our needs to our merciful and gracious God, who is slow to anger and rich in kindness.

- For the Church, that we extend God’s love, mercy, and kindness to the world, especially to those most in need, becoming a more and more effective and powerful witness to God’s goodness, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- That leaders around the world may take Saint Paul’s words to heart, mending their ways, finding agreement with one another, and living in peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those preparing for their wedding day, that the union of their love in marriage may reflect the divine love of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For students and teachers, that they may enjoy the rest and renewal of a summer break, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For what else should we pray? Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

God of love and peace, you have blessed us with love and mercy, kindness and fidelity, the Son and the Holy Spirit. May we ponder all of these before we act so that we may reflect your goodness to the world. Graciously hear this and all our prayers through your Son and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer: p. 54

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Rite of Peace:

The sign of peace outwardly expresses a deep spiritual reality; through this sign we acknowledge Christ's presence in each other and share the peace we have received from Him. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Communion:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The body of Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion:

May receiving this Sacrament, O Lord our God, bring us health of body and soul, as we confess your eternal holy Trinity and undivided Unity.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Concluding Rite:

Final Blessing:

May the Lord bless us, ✠ protect us from all evil and lead us to everlasting life. **Amen**

Go in peace! **Thanks be to God.**

Suggested Closing Song: Joyful, Joyful We Adore You (Verses 1 and 3), #253